

FORM PTO-1590
(REV 10-2000)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER

P/3781-4

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)

09/830478

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.
PCT/EP99/08055

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE
25 October 1999

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED
30 October 1998

TITLE OF INVENTION
PROCESS AND CONVERTER FOR THE PREPARATION OF AMMONIA

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Christian SPETH

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☒ This is an express request to promptly begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)).
4. ☐ The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (PCT Article 31).
5. ☒ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
 - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☒ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☐ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
 - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
 - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
 - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
 - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). - **unsigned**
10. ☒ ~~Annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report~~ If the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)) including amended claims.

Items 11 to 16 below concern document(s) or information included:

11. ☒ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☒ A FIRST preliminary amendment.
☐ A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ A substitute specification.
15. ☐ A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.
16. ☒ Other items or information:
2 sheets of drawings.
Print EFS form.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee (mail label EL613112673US in an envelope addressed to: Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 26, 2001.


Dorothy Jenkins

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

Dorothy Jenkins
Signature

April 26, 2001

Date of Signature

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (1) 11/2000 (2) 11/2000 09/830478		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP99/08055		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER P/3781+4	
17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The following fees are submitted: BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) : Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00 International preliminary examination fee paid to USPTO (37 CFR 1.482) and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00				CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY	
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =				\$	860.
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	10 - 20 =	0	X \$18.00	\$	
Independent claims	2 - 3 =	0	X \$80.00	\$	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)				+ \$270.00	\$
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$	860.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$	860.00
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than <input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).				\$	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$	860.00
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				\$	
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$	860.00
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				charged:	\$
a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>860.</u> to cover the above fees is enclosed. Check No. <u>4410</u>					
b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
c. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>15-0700</u> . A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.					
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP 1180 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036-8403 Tel: (212) 382 0700					
				SIGNATURE:  Edward A. Meilman NAME <u>24,735</u> REGISTRATION NUMBER	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Christian SPETH

Date: April 26, 2001

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

For: PROCESS AND CONVERTER FOR THE PREPARATION OF AMMONIA

Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows.

FEE CALCULATION

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

_____ If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

NO. CLAIMS		HIGHEST NO.						ADDIT.	
AFTER		PREVIOUSLY							
AMENDMENT		PAID FOR		EXTRA PRESENT		RATE		FEE	
TOTAL	10	MINUS	20	* =	0	X	(\$9 SE or \$18)	\$	
INDEP.	2	MINUS	3	** =	0	X	(\$40 SE or \$80)	\$	
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM					X		(\$135 SE or \$270)	\$	
* not less than 20 ** not less than 3									TOTAL \$ -----

If any additional payment is required, a check which includes the calculated fee of \$_____ (OFGS Check No. _____) is attached.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. §1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

AMENDMENTS

☒ X_ If checked, amendment(s) to the specification and/or claims are submitted herewith.

1. ☐ If checked, an abstract is submitted as the last page of Appendix A.

3. Claims:

Please amend claims 4 and 5 and add new claims 9 and 10 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(i) as set forth in the “clean” version attached hereto as Appendix A. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix B.

☐ If checked, the optional complete set of “clean” claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(3) is attached hereto as Appendix C.

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to change the multiple dependent claims to single dependent claims in order to reduce the government filing fee.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label # EL613112673US) in an envelope addressed to: Asst. Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 26, 2001:

Dorothy Jenkins

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence


Signature

April 26, 2001

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



Edward A. Meilman

Registration No.: 24,735

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700

APPENDIX A
“CLEAN” VERSION OF EACH PARAGRAPH/SECTION/CLAIM
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(ii) AND (c)(i)

CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):

(Amended) 4. The process of claim 2, wherein the separation is obtained by cooling of the effluent stream and condensation of ammonia.

(Amended) 5. The process of claim 2, wherein the separation is obtained by adsorption of ammonia contained in the effluent stream.

(New) 9. The process of claim 3, wherein the separation is obtained by cooling of the effluent stream and condensation of ammonia.

(New) 10. The process of claim 3, wherein the separation is obtained by adsorption of ammonia contained in the effluent stream.

APPENDIX B

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS:

4. The process of claim 2 [and 3], wherein the separation is obtained by cooling of the effluent stream and condensation of ammonia.

5. The process of claim 2 [and 3], wherein the separation is obtained by adsorption of ammonia contained in the effluent stream.

00506861.1

- 1 -

Process and Converter for the Preparation of Ammonia

The present invention relates to the preparation of ammonia by catalytic conversion of ammonia synthesis gas.

5 More particularly, this invention concerns synthesis of ammonia at high conversion rates of ammonia synthesis gas in presence of an ammonia synthesis catalyst arranged in a tubular reaction zone being cooled by a cooling agent on shell side of the tubular reaction zone. Synthesis of ammonia from synthesis gas of hydrogen and nitrogen is an
10 exothermic process and the process requires cooling to obtain high conversion rates.

Even if the concentration of hydrogen and nitrogen in the synthesis gas is close to the stoichiometric composition
15 for ammonia formation, complete reaction to ammonia cannot be obtained by a single passage of the synthesis gas through a catalytic bed. Furthermore, due to the exothermic nature of the ammonia synthesis, increasing temperature during passage through the catalytic bed displaces the
20 equilibrium concentration towards lower ammonia concentration. Several methods for cooling the ammonia synthesis process are known.

The usual methods for the preparation of ammonia from
25 synthesis gas employ either indirect or direct cooling of the synthesis gas between a number of catalytic beds, wherein the ammonia synthesis passes over an ammonia synthesis catalyst.

30 By direct cooling, cold synthesis gas is introduced into partly reacted synthesis gas between the beds. The disadvantage of this cooling method is dilution of the partly reacted gas with unreacted gas resulting in lower ammonia concentration in the product stream from the process.

By the indirect cooling method, partly reacted synthesis gas is cooled by cold gas, usually fresh synthesis gas in a heat exchanger arranged between outlet and inlet of two catalyst beds.

5

It has now been found that conversion rate of ammonia synthesis gas to ammonia is much improved when cooling the synthesis gas as it proceeds through a catalytic bed of ammonia synthesis catalyst by heat transfer to a cooling agent being in continuous heat contact with the process.

10

Accordingly, this invention provides a process for the preparation of ammonia comprising steps of:

15

contacting an ammonia synthesis gas with an ammonia synthesis catalyst arranged as reaction zone in one or more catalyst tubes;

20

cooling the reaction zone continuously by transferring heat from the reaction zone to a cooling agent; and

withdrawing an ammonia rich effluent stream from the reaction zone.

25

In its most general embodiment, the above process is carried out in a converter with one or more catalyst tubes arranged in a shell for retaining a cooling agent. Synthesis gas is introduced at top of the catalyst tube and passed through the reaction zone of an ammonia synthesis catalyst. Heat being developed during conversion of hydrogen and nitrogen contained in the synthesis gas to ammonia is continuously transferred through wall of the catalyst tube to the cooling medium surrounding the tube. By continuous cooling of the process, an adiabatic temperature

30

increase is substantially avoided, so that the process is carried out at substantially isothermal conditions. Isothermal conversion of the synthesis gas results in higher conversion rates of the gas to ammonia than in the known ammonia synthesis processes with indirect or direct cooling of partially reacted synthesis gas, where the cooled gas is contacted with the catalyst at adiabatic conditions. Having removed heat of reaction from the reaction zone, the cooling medium is continuously or periodically withdrawn from the converter and externally cooled by e.g. heat exchange with water or steam and recycled to the converter by conventional means.

In a specific embodiment of the invention, the cooling agent is retained in a space formed by outer wall of the catalyst tube and inner wall of a cooling tube concentrically surrounding the catalyst tube.

As an advantageous feature of the latter embodiment, shell of a reactor with a number of catalyst tubes can be avoided or made from material with considerably lower mechanical strength than in the conventional ammonia converters.

Preferably, the cooling tubes surrounding the catalyst tubes are designed with a lower mechanical strength than the catalyst tube. In case of catalyst tube rupture reacting gas escaping at high pressure into the cooling tubes, ventilates into a space outside the cooling tube. Thereby, the synthesis gas depressurizes outside the cooling tubes and detrimental reactions of the gas with the cooling agent are avoided advantageously.

A further object of the invention is to provide a converter for the preparation of ammonia by reaction of ammonia synthesis gas in presence of an ammonia synthesis catalyst and

cooling the reaction as it proceeds through the synthesis catalyst, the converter comprises at least one catalyst tube adapted to receive the ammonia synthesis gas and to hold a reaction zone with the ammonia synthesis catalyst, which at least one catalyst tube being arranged in a container with a cooling agent, as schematically shown in the attached Fig. 1.

Cooling media being useful as cooling agent in the above process and reactor will be any solid or liquid having a melting or boiling point below the desired temperature in the reaction zone, including salt or mixture of salts, metals or liquids being inert at the actual process conditions. Those cooling agents include eutectic mixtures of salts like mixtures of KNO_3 , NaNO_3 and NaNO_2 (supplied by Degussa) and eutectic mixtures of NaOH and KOH . Further eutectic salt mixtures and cooling liquids are well known in the chemical industry. The usual temperature condition in the above process will be between 300°C and 600°C . The temperature of the cooling agent has to be maintained at a predetermined level within the operation temperature range by external cooling of the agent as mentioned herein before.

Removal of ammonia from the ammonia rich product gas being withdrawn from the catalyst tubes is further an embodiment of the invention obtained through adsorption on an adsorbent having high affinity to ammonia at high pressure, such as regeneration of the spent adsorbent is carried out through depressurization of the adsorbent and recovery of ammonia rich gas similar to separation of e.g. oxygen or nitrogen in the known pressure swing adsorption processes. Furthermore, ammonia may be separated from unconverted synthesis gas by cooling and condensation of ammonia in the

ammonia rich effluent stream from the process. Unreacted synthesis gas being separated from ammonia in the product gas may then be recycled to the catalyst tube or passed to a subsequent catalyst tube for further conversion, as
5 schematically shown in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3.

Example

10 In a specific embodiment of the present invention a synthesis feed gas at a pressure of 13.8 MPa is preheated to 350°C and introduced to a reactor furnished with 600 reactor tubes with an inner diameter of 80.1 mm. The tubes were loaded with an upper portion of conventional iron ammonia catalyst and a lower portion of conventional ruthenium
15 ammonia catalyst. Synthesis gas is distributed to the tubes and reacted over the ammonia catalyst. The catalyst tubes are surrounded by a shell. In the space between the shell and the tubes, a salt melt is being circulated countercurrently to the gas flow direction inside the tubes and in
20 heat conducting relationship with the synthesis. Circulation of the salt melt serves to remove heat evolved from the exothermic ammonia synthesis reaction. The salt melt is introduced at 360°C into the cooling space and leaves the reactor at 420°C. The hot melt is cooled outside the reactor to 360°C in a heat exchanger, in which the heat
25 desorbed from the salt melt is used for preheating of synthesis gas. The cooled salt melt is then pumped back to the reactor. Having passed through the catalyst reacted synthesis gas, being rich in ammonia, leaves the tubes and
30 is withdrawn from the reactor. The gas is cooled by heat exchange with fresh synthesis gas.

In Table 1 below are listed the concentrations of the components in the gas stream inlet and exit the reactor as
35 obtained by the above experiment.

Table 1

	Inlet gas	Exit gas
Composition (mole%):		
H ₂	73.59	52.95
N ₂	25.37	18.73
Ar	0.36	0.45
CH ₄	0.68	0.87
NH ₃		27.00
Pressure, MPa		13.4
Temperature, °C	13.8	402
	350	

The inventive process may be employed in a one through ammonia synthesis section as well as in a more conventional type ammonia synthesis loop section or in combination with similar or other ammonia converter types in more advanced ammonia synthesis loop sections e.g. comprising feed gas converters and/or purge gas converters. The ammonia product may be retrieved from the ammonia rich product gas in the synthesis section by cooling and condensation of ammonia in the ammonia rich effluent stream or absorption. The removal of ammonia may be conducted in one or more stages, between and/or after each of the reaction zones.

International Patent Application No. PCT/EP99/08055
Applicant: HALDOR TOPSOE A/S
PCT 1083 - 00989/ej
November 10, 2000

Claims 1 to 8

1. A process for the preparation of ammonia comprising the steps of

contacting an ammonia synthesis gas with an ammonia synthesis catalyst arranged as a reaction zone in one or more catalyst tubes;

cooling the reaction zone by a heat conducting relationship with a cooling agent;
and

withdrawing an ammonia rich effluent stream from the reaction zone;

wherein the cooling agent is selected from salts, mixtures of salts and metals having a melting point below the temperature in the reaction zone.
2. The process of claim 1, wherein the ammonia synthesis gas is contacted with the ammonia synthesis gas arranged in two or more reaction zones with intermediate withdrawal of an ammonia rich effluent stream between the reaction zones.
3. The process of claim 1, wherein the ammonia rich effluent stream is separated in a stream of unconverted ammonia synthesis gas and an ammonia product stream, the unconverted ammonia synthesis gas is recycled to the reaction zone.
4. The process of claim 2 and 3, wherein the separation is obtained by cooling of the effluent stream and condensation of ammonia.
5. The process of claim 2 and 3, wherein the separation is obtained by adsorption of ammonia contained in the effluent stream.

6. The process of claim 1, wherein the cooling agent is circulated within cooling tubes, each surrounding concentrically one catalyst tube.
7. A converter for the preparation of ammonia comprising at least one catalyst tube adapted to receive ammonia synthesis gas and to hold a reaction zone of ammonia synthesis catalyst; and

at least one cooling tube concentrically surrounding the at least one catalyst tube and being adapted to hold the cooling agent selected from salts, mixtures of salts and metals having a melting point below the temperature in the reaction zone.
8. The converter of claim 7, wherein the wall of the cooling tube(s) has a lower mechanical strength than the wall of the catalyst tube(s).

ABSTRACT

Process and Converter for the Preparation of Ammonia

- 5 Process for the preparation of ammonia comprising
steps of
- contacting an ammonia synthesis gas with an ammonia
synthesis catalyst arranged as reaction zone in one or more
catalyst tubes;
- 10 cooling the reaction zone by heat conducting rela-
tionship with a cooling agent; and
- withdrawing an ammonia rich effluent stream from
the reaction zone.

1/2

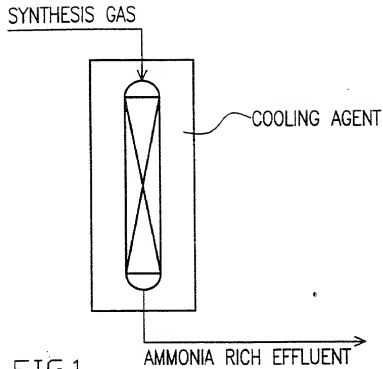


FIG.1

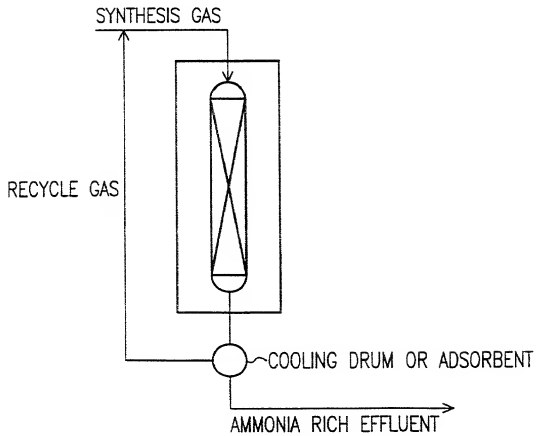


FIG.2

2/2

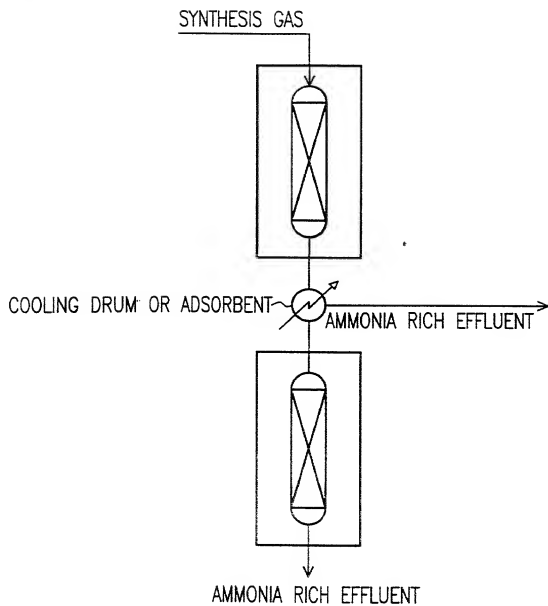


FIG.3

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
 COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

 OFPGS FILE NO.
 P/3781-4

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or a joint inventor (if plural inventors are named) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

PROCESS AND CONVERTER FOR THE PREPARATION OF AMMONIA

the specification of which is attached hereto, unless the following box is checked:

was filed on 25 October 1999 as United States patent Application Number or PCT International patent application number PCT/EP99/08055 and was amended on 10 November 2000 (if any).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56. I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or United States provisional application(s) listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign or Provisional Application(s)

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
Denmark	1998 01398	30 October 1998	YES <u>X</u> NO <u> </u>
			YES <u> </u> NO <u> </u>

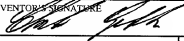
I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

UNITED STATES APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	STATUS (patented, pending, abandoned)

I hereby appoint customer no. 2352 OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, L.P. and the members of the firm, Samuel H. Weiner - Reg. No. 18,510; Jerome M. Berliner - Reg. No. 18,653; Robert C. Faber - Reg. No. 24,322; Edward A. Meilman - Reg. No. 24,735; Steven I. Weisburd - Reg. No. 27,409; Max Moskowitz - Reg. No. 30,376; Stephen A. Soffen - Reg. No. 31,063; James A. Finder - Reg. No. 30,173; William O. Gray, III - Reg. No. 30,944; Louis C. Dujmich - Reg. No. 30,625; Douglas A. Miro - Reg. No. 31,643; and Michael J. Scheer - Reg. No. 34,425, as attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application, to transact all business in the Patent & Trademark Office connected therewith and to receive all correspondence.

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: **OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP** DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: 1180 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS (212) 582-0700
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10036-8403
CUSTOMER NO. 2352

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR Christian SPETH		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE 	DATE 23 MAY 07
RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country) DK-3540 Lyngbe, Denmark		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Denmark	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS Kirkevangen 33, DK-3540 Lyngbe, Denmark			
FULL NAME OF SECOND JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS			
FULL NAME OF THIRD JOINT INVENTOR (IF ANY)		INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE
RESIDENCE (City and either State or Foreign Country)		COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP	
POST OFFICE ADDRESS			

☐ CONTINUED ON PAGE 2